

one-third from the base, whence it narrows pretty uniformly to an acute tip. Its base is very deeply notched with lobes nearly parallel to the petiole, and parallel-sided.

A. pubens has roundish, or more usually oval petioles with a large hole, which is usually also oval, in their centre; five of the angles reduced to rather prominent ribs; the two upper ones, which are only slightly more conspicuous, have a very broad shallow furrow between them. The leaf is deeply cordate-ovate, with its broadest part near the base, whence it narrows, with much uniformity of curve, to the bluntish tip. Its base is less deeply notched than that of *A. minus*; and its lobes are rounded.

XXXVIII.—SPICILEGIA ENTOMOLOGICA. I.—*Description of Telocera Wollastoni, an apparently unrecorded species of Longicorn Beetle from Australia.* By ADAM WHITE, Assistant, Zool. Dept. Brit. Mus.

THERE is no part of the external structure of an insect more variable in different genera than the antennæ. Look at the Neuroptera for example. Take the short, few-jointed antennæ of those great-eyed Dragon-flies, with their bristle-ending last joint, and compare them with the long, many-jointed antennæ of an *Ascalaphus*, with the terminal joints expanded into a knob, so that Scopoli, whose writings White of Selborne often studied and quoted, looking to that character alone, described one of these strange Neuroptera as a butterfly.

Look, again, at Beetles; compare the filiform antennæ of a Tiger-beetle with the many-plated antennæ of a male Cockchafer, or with the strangely distorted antenna of a male *Melœ* or *Cerocoma*, or the wondrously expanded joint of a *Paussus*,—and how truly marvellous must be the diversity of uses and purposes for which these antennæ were made! The uses of the antennæ would form a magnificent subject of research; and the results, if recorded by an able pen, would make one of the finest, the most attractive, and the most interesting of books, particularly if illustrated with enlarged and accurate drawings.

But, to restrict oneself to Longicorn Beetles, the antennæ in this great group must always afford to the systematist the most easily detected zoological characters. Nowhere, except in a few *Anthribidæ*, which resemble Longicorns at first sight, are there longer antennæ than those of the males of some of the genera of this group; take, for example, the *Acanthocinus ædilis*, or *Macronemus*. And yet you will find Longicorns with very abbreviated antennæ; and in numerous sets, such as *Clyti* and

Callidia, the antennæ are by no means conspicuous for length. Again, if we restrict ourselves to Australian Longicorns, how strange are the curiously lamellated antennæ of the beautiful genus *Petalodes* of Newman, of which a second species exists in the Museum Collection, which I have named *P. plagiatus**, from the long pale-yellow smooth spot so conspicuous on each elytron from the middle to near the tip,—the basal half of the elytra being strongly punctured, a yellow punctured patch before the smooth patch, and only separated from it by a narrow stripe, of the general pale brown of the elytra! How different must be the economy of this insect, so far as the male uses these finely lamellated antennæ, from the economy of the *Scolecobrotus Westwoodii* of Hope, whose antennæ have their fore-edges strangely serrated! and yet the insects are not very distantly related. Then, again, the dilated antennæ giving *Telocera* somewhat of a *Languiria* appearance, or of a *Triplax*, must have a purpose and use different from the simple linear antennæ of the *Callidia* and *Pytheus*, to which it is allied.

The genus which I describe under the name of *Telocera* is allied to *Pytheus* of Newman, one species of which only is known, the *Pytheus jugosus* from Sydney. As the genus *Brachytria*, close to *Pytheus*, varies in its coloration, and apparently in the different sexes, I thought that *Pytheus* and *Telocera* might possibly be sexes of one genus, and even of the same species, in that country of anomalies in structure, where the female of *Distichocera*, for instance, is totally unlike her partner. It would be very rash, in our present state of knowledge, to regard *Telocera* as such. There were three specimens of this pretty beetle in the collection bought by Mr. Stevens. One of these only I have seen. It is in the British Museum; the other belongs to Mr. Pascoe; while Mr. Thompson of Paris procured the third for his noble collection, during his late passage through London, on his route from America to the French capital. The figure, carefully drawn on the block by Mr. Ford, but much magnified, shows its curious form.

TELOCERA.

Antennæ long; first joint thickened, at base curved; second as usual small, somewhat globular at apex; third and fourth

* *Petalodes plagiatus*, White.

P. brunneus; antennis longe lamellatis pedibusque subpallidioribus; thorace scabroso-punctato, lateribus pilis brevibus densis flavidis ornatis; elytris apice subtruncatis, basi punctatis, post medium lævibus, plaga elongata prope suturam pallido-flava, altera plaga minore propius basin, sutura apice subspinosa; metathorace lateribus albo-pilosulis; abdominis lateribus albo-pilosis uninotatis. Long. lin. 8 ♂.

longer, and about equal in length; fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth joints about equal in length, each longer than the fourth; ninth, tenth and eleventh dilated, and forming a distinct club; the ninth triangular, truncated at tip; the tenth somewhat cup-shaped; the eleventh somewhat globose, rounded at the tip; these last three joints slightly flattened.



Thorax longer than wide, broadest about the middle, where it bulges but is not tubercled, narrower than elytra at the base.

Scutellum large, somewhat sunk, pointed.

Elytra narrow, elongated; shoulders prominent.

Eyes largish, very much emarginate in front, near the insertion of antennæ.

Femora strongly clavate.

Telocera Wollastoni, n. s.

T. capite, antennis, abdomine pedibusque nigris, thorace fasciaque elytrorum transversa postmediana miniaceo-rubris, elytris cæruleo-viridibus. Long. lin. 4.

Hab. Australia (Moreton Bay? Sydney?).

Thomæ Vernon Wollaston, Entomologo præstantissimo, auctori operis eximii, 'Insecta Maderensia,' viatori indefesso, in scientia literisque humanioribus erudito, coleopteron hoc pulchrum dedicatur.

Antennæ, head, abdomen and legs black. Thorax vermilion-red, punctured, and thickly clothed with erect hairs. Elytra at apex rounded, bluish green, with a broad red band across them behind the middle, and colouring the suture and sides of the elytron; apex of elytra blackish blue; the green before the red band is tinged with blackish blue; the shoulders are somewhat protuberant; elytra deeply punctate-striate, with erect hairs. Scutellum black, with deeply grooved lines. Legs black, with longish hairs; tibiæ, especially on the inside, clothed with dense, silky, short hairs with a brownish tinge.

Note.—The *Taniotes Pazii* of Rojas, from Venezuela, described and figured in the Rev. et Mag. de Zool. 1856. t. . f. 2, is synonymous with *Lamia* (*Plectrodera*) *quadritaniator*, White, described in the Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. 1846, p. 48. The Museum specimen was from Guayaquil.